

REMARKS

Claims 1-3, 8-9, 14-15, 17-26, and 29-31 are pending and presented for examination on the merits, as claims 11, 13, and 16 have previously been cancelled and claims 4-7, 10, 12, 27 and 28 remain withdrawn. Claims 3, 14, 15 and 17-26 are allowed. Claims 8 and 30 are objected to as containing allowable subject matter. The indication of allowed and allowable claims is greatly appreciated. The Examiner's reconsideration of the previous rejections is also greatly appreciated.

Claims 1, 2, 9, 29 and 31 are rejected over Canham, WIPO Pub No. 01/76564 (or US 6,929,950). Claim 1 is amended, and the rejection is traversed with respect to the amended claims.

The Examiner cites column 17 of Canham and the portion that discloses a silver nitrate powder. It is noted first that the silver nitrate powder is only placed upon the surface of the porous silicon as stated in lines 35-37. It serves as a precursor that deposits silver into the pores of the silicon when it is heated to a melting temperature. C17, L38-41. The purpose of placing silver into the pores of the porous silicon is to increase the mass of the porous silicon so that it makes a more effective micro projectile. C17, L21-28.

The Examiner considers the silver or silver nitrate to be a solid state oxidant. Applicants disagree, but amend claim 1 to expedite prosecution. As for the disagreement, silver and silver nitrate are not especially reactive and don't readily donate electrons, so under any definition, Applicants do not believe that artisans would classify silver or silver nitrate as an oxidant. However, the present application clearly deals with oxidants in the sense of explosive (dangerous) materials, i.e., oxidants that can cause or contribute to combustion. No artisan would consider silver (in the pores in Canham) or silver nitrate (on the surface of the silicon as a precursor to silver) to be "an explosive solid state oxidant" as required by amended claim 1. For these reasons, claim 1 and claims that depend therefrom should be allowed (including those claims that have been withdrawn from examination but depend upon claim 1).

For all of the above reasons, Applicants request reconsideration and allowance of the application. Should the Examiner believe that outstanding issues exist or that a teleconference would aid prosecution, then the Examiner is invited to contact the

undersigned attorney at the below listed number.

Respectfully submitted,

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